

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 034468

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TOSEC 283-W/W PLEASE PASS SAM 89670

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 34468 ACTION AQABA 14 FEB

QUOTE

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TOSEC 283

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: TEXT WALL STREET JOURNAL, FEBRUARY 14, KEATLEY

FROM JERUSALEM, P. 7

FOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS

NO. 21

HEADLINE: KISSINGER TRIP IS APPARENTLY A SUCCESS, THOUGH  
EXPECTATIONS HAD BEEN MODEST

BEGIN TEXT: HAK ENDS HIS TENTH ME PEACE MISSION TOMORROW  
WITH AT BEST LIMITED RESULTS.

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PAGE 02 STATE 034468

YET HE APPARENTLY CONSIDERS THE TRIP SUCCESSFUL ENOUGH, FOR

HIS EXPECTATIONS WERE MODEST FROM THE BEGINNING. HIS MAIN PURPOSE WAS TO PROD EGYPT AND ISRAEL TOWARD ANOTHER SINAI TROOP DISENGAGEMENT, SOMETHING HE CONSIDERS TOUGHER THAN THE TWO PREVIOUS ARAB-ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENTS.

IF ALL GOES WELL, GOVERNMENT LEADERS IN CAIRO AND JERUSALEM WILL SPEND THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS MULLING OVER WHAT HAK HAS TOLD THEM ABOUT EACH OTHER'S INTENTIONS. THEN HE HOPES TO RETURN IN MID-MARCH FOR INTENSIVE SHUTTLLING BETWEEN THOSE CAPITALS, WITH AN AGREEMENT AS HIS GOAL.

IN A MIDNIGHT STATEMENT HERE, HAK SAID HE DIDN'T BRING ISRAEL ANY ARAB "CONCRETE PROPOSALS PLANS OR LINES BUT RATHER A CONTINUATION OF THE CONSIDERATIONS THAT WERE PART OF MY EXPLORATORY MISSION."

ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER YIGAL ALLON WAS EVEN MORE NON-COMMITAL. HE MERELY SAID, "I AM GLAD MR. KISSINGER FOUND IT POSSIBLE" TO CALL AGAIN NEXT MONTH IN HIS SEARCH FOR "POLITICAL PROGRESS."

HOWEVER, THERE IS NOTHING EASY ABOUT IT BECAUSE OF THE TERRAIN INVOLVED. ISRAEL IS BEING ASKED TO SURRENDER TWO STRATEGIC MOUNTAIN PASSES THAT IT CONSIDERS IMPORTANT TO NATIONAL DEFENSE, PLUS SOME OIL FIELDS THAT SUPPLY ABOUT 60 PERCENT OF ITS PETROLEUM.

EGYPT IS BEING CAJOLED TO GIVE ISRAEL SOME PUBLIC ASSURANCES THAT IT WON'T RENEW WAR, SUCH AS A FORMAL STATEMENT OF NONBELLIGERENCY. OTHER POSSIBILITIES THAT MIGHT SOOTHE ISRAELI NERVES INCLUDE PASSAGE FOR ISRAELI SHIPS THOROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL, DIRECT AIR FLIGHTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES OR CULTURAL EXCHANGES.

WHETHER EGYPT'S PRESIDENT, ANWAR SADAT, FEELS STRONG ENOUGH POLITICALLY TO DO ANY OF THESE REMAINS UNKNOWN.

IMPASSE CONTINUES

THUS THE IMPASSE CONTINUES AND HAK IS BEING EXTREMELY UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 034468

CAUTIOUS IN BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ABOUT CHANCES OF SUCCESS. "WE ARE STILL IN BUSINESS", HE SAID YESTERDAY AFTER AN OVERNIGHT STOP IN CAIRO TO SEE MR. SADAT. BUT HE WOULDN'T SAY ANYTHING SPECIFIC ABOUT THE PROSPECTS.

PRIVATELY, SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS WON'T SAY MUCH MORE THAN THAT THE SITUATION ISN'T HOPELESS, AND THAT ENOUGH HAS

TRANSPIRED FOR ALL PARTIES TO INVITE HAK BACK IN MARCH FOR HIS ALL-OUT-PUSH. THEY INSIST THIS CURRENT TRIP HASN'T BEEN A NEGOTIATING EFFORT IN WHICH SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ARE EXCHANGED AND ANSWERED.

INSTEAD, HAK IS TRYING TO GET LEADERS TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE AND WHERE THEIR POLICIES ARE LEADING. IN PARTICULAR, HE APPARENTLY WANTS THEM TO PONDER THE CONSEQUENCES OF FAILING TO AGREE. THOSE COULD WELL INCLUDE A FIFTH ME WAR, ANOTHER OIL EMBARGO AND MUCH DESTRUCTION IN THE ME AS WELL AS ECONOMIC REVERSALS IN THE INDUSTRIAL WEST. HE SEEMS TO SUGGEST THAT THE DANGERS OF DIPLOMATIC FAILURE ARE MUCH GREATER THAN THE POLITICAL DANGERS THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WOULD FACE IF THEY OFFERED UNPOPULAR CONCESSIONS TO EACH OTHER.

MORE INTRANSIGENT

HAK YESTERDAY SPEND FIVE HOURS IN DAMASCUS FOR TALKS WITH SYRIAN LEADERS, WHO ARE GENERALLY CONSIDERED MORE INTRANSIGENT THAN THE EGYPTIANS. HOWEVER, HE RECEIVED INDICATIONS THAT THEY ALSO ARE WILLING TO CONSIDER ANOTHER INTERIM PEACE MOVE. THIS WOULD BE ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS, SYRIAN PROPERTY OCCUPIED SINCE 1967 BY ISRAEL. ACCORDING TO SENIOR U.S. SOURCES, THOUGH, NOTHING SPECIFIC WAS PROPOSED, AND THIS SUBJECT WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL AFTER THE SINAI QUESTION IS RESOLVED.

ALL THIS COULD MEAN DELAY OF THE GENEVA ME PEACE CONFERENCE. THAT ASSEMBLY, IN RECESS MORE THAN A YEAR, IS COCHAIRLED BY THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION. ALTHOUGH U.S. OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN RESIGNED TO RECONVENING THE CONFERENCE BEFORE LONG, THEY HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO DO SO.  
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PAGE 04 STATE 034468

THEY HAVE BEEN AFRAID IT WOULD PRODUCE MORE ANGRY SPEECHES THAN NEGOTIATING PROGRESS, PARTICULARLY IF THE QUESTION OF REPRESENTATION FOR PALESTINIANS IS RAISED.

HAK MOVES TODAY TO JORDAN FOR TALKS WITH KING HUSSEIN, THEN HE JOURNEYS TOMORROW TO SAUDI ARABIA TO SEE KING FAISAL, WHERE OIL PROBLEMS ARE LIKELY TO BE RAISED. AFTER THAT HE WILL VISIT SEVERAL EUROPEAN CITIES, INCLUDING A GENEVA STOP TO SEE SOVIET FM ANDREI GROMYKO AND A ZURICH VISIT WITH THE SHAH OF IRAN. THERE, OIL IS ALSO A MAIN TOPIC. HAK MAY ASK IF THE SHAH WILL SUPPLY ISRAEL WITH THE PETROLEUM IT WILL NEED IF IT SURRENDERS THOSE SINAI FIELDS TO EGYPT. END TEXT

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